



Meeting Minutes

**Meeting
organized by**

Paolo Calafiura

Participants

Andrea Cavalli, Julien Poffet,
Yushu Yao

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Office

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Subjects

- We discussed about the environment backups for VML.
 - By using rdiff-backup, we need to store the environment backups on the host file system.
 - On Windows hosts, this will be a problem: not all Windows file systems support long filenames or filenames which contain special characters. This means that a Unix file system cannot be stored on Windows file systems. Because of that, we cannot use rdiff-backup.
 - A solution will be to package the files, for example in a tar file.
 - Idea: tar created on the guest, then transferred to the host for storage.
 - With tar files, we can store incremental environment backups: inside the tar file, we store only the modified or new files since the last backup.
 - To know which files have to be stored in the tar, we could transfer the old tar from the host to the guest and then create a new difference tar. This is not a good idea, because we need to transfer the whole old tar.
 - Solution: use a manifest file which describes the content of the old tar. Use this manifest file to know which files must be stored in the backup.
 - Restoration of the backup: copy the tar file(s) from the host to the guest and untar them.
 - Problem: what if a file contained in a 1st tar has been deleted when we took the 2nd backup? The file is in the 1st tar, but we have no information on the 2nd tar about the suppression of this file. When we restore the 2nd backup, the file will be restored.
 - Solution: for the moment, don't mind about this.
 - Requirements: SSH must be on the host (for the transfer of the tar files).
- We presented what we did about the VML installer packages.
 - On Windows, the package (MSI installer) contains a self-contained executable. No Python or external libraries are needed.
 - For Linux, we have a VML Python egg, which contains some information about the external modules needed by VML. The egg is easily installed and the external modules are automatically downloaded during the installation.
 - VML uses libxml and libxslt, two C libraries. On Linux systems, these libraries must be compiled and installed. We provide an installation script which does that, but it is not a very elegant solution.
 - libxml and libxslt maybe come with the standard Linux distributions. We have to check that.
 - We will send to Messrs. Calafiura and Yao the two VML packages (MSI and Python egg + installation script).